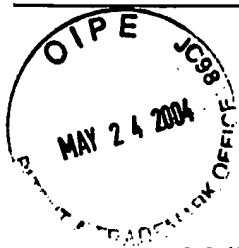


# ARNOLD & PORTER LLP

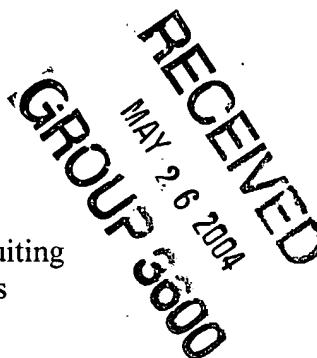
202.942.5000  
202.942.5999 Fax

555 Twelfth Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20004-1206



May 24, 2004

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450



Re: U.S. Application No. 09/923,385  
Filed: August 8, 2001  
Title: Systems and Methods for Selecting and Recruiting  
Investigators and Subjects for Clinical Studies  
Applicants: Leslie D. MICHELSON *et al.*  
Atty. Docket: 16602.003

Sir:

The following documents are forwarded herewith for appropriate action by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO):

1. a Statement of the Substance of the Interview; and
2. a return postcard.

Please stamp the attached postcard with the filing date of these documents and return it to our courier.

In the event that extensions of time beyond those petitioned for herewith are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned. Applicants do not believe any fees are due in conjunction with this filing. However, if any fees are required in the present application, including any fees for extensions of time, then the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Arnold & Porter LLP Deposit Account No. 50-2387 referencing matter number 16602.003. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

*Danielle Edwards*

Joseph A. Micallef (Reg. Attorney 39,772)

Danielle M. Edwards (Reg. Agent No. 51,645) \*

*\* Admitted to practice in Virginia and before the United States Patent and Trademark Office; practicing law in the District of Columbia pending approval of application for admission to the D.C. Bar and under the supervision of attorneys who are members in good standing of the D.C. Bar.*

Enclosures

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Leslie D. MICHELSON *et al.*

Appln. No.: 09/932,385

Filed: August 8, 2001

For: Systems and Methods for Selecting  
and Recruiting Investigators and  
Subjects for Clinical Studies

Art Unit: 3626

Examiner: Alexander Kalinowski

Confirmation No.: 2406

Atty. Docket: 16602.003

**Statement of the Substance of the Interview**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

On April 27, 2004, Applicants' representative(s), Joseph Micallef and Danielle Edwards, held an interview with Examiner Alexander Kalinowski regarding the above-referenced application. Applicants' representatives thank the Examiner for extending the courtesy of an interview.

A record of the substance of that interview is as follows:

The Examiner confirmed that the previously appealed rejections were withdrawn.

Applicants' representatives argued that the filing date of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/227,484, to which the Knight reference (U.S. Publication No. 2002/0099570) claims benefit, cannot be relied on by the Examiner. Applicants' representatives and the Examiner discussed whether the Knight provisional application needs to be more explicitly entered into the record and, if so, how to do so.

Applicants' representatives discussed Applicants' entitlement to the priority date of Applicants' provisional application.

Applicants' representatives and the Examiner also discussed potential amendments to claims 14 and 15 to overcome 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, issues.

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Additionally, the Examiner stated that he would reconsider the rejection of the claims upon formal submission of Applicants' arguments.

Respectfully submitted,



Joseph A. Micallef (Reg. Attorney 39,772)

Danielle M. Edwards (Reg. Agent No. 51,645)\*

*\* Admitted to practice in Virginia and before the United States Patent and Trademark Office; practicing law in the District of Columbia pending approval of application for admission to the D.C. Bar and under the supervision of attorneys who are members in good standing of the D.C. Bar.*

Date: May 24, 2004

ARNOLD & PORTER LLP

555 12<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20004

(202) 942-5000 telephone

(202) 942-5999 facsimile